

LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF AGEING IN AFRICA (LSAA)

The World Health Organization has proposed this study that would contain high quality household data on the health and economic circumstances of individuals as they age and be comparable across countries. The LSAA is a cornerstone of the Minimum Data Set (MDS) Project on Ageing and Older Adults in sub-Saharan Africa.

Listing of study variables & measurement of variables

The following types of data would be collected:

Demographic variables:

- Age
- Sex
- Marital status
- Education

Health variables:

- Self-reported quality of life
- Health
- Disability
- Abuse
- Health conditions and symptoms
- Physical functioning (ADLs and IADLs)
- Psychological and emotional health
- Cognitive functioning
- Health behaviours
- Bio-medical data including physical and nutritional assessments and anthropometrics
- Use/cost of health care services (including traditional healers/medicines and their interaction of various health care services utilized)

Economic variables:

- Current employment/employment history
- Sources and composition of current income
- Expenditures
- Assets
- Pension rights
- Housing

Social support:

- Household composition and living arrangements
- Attributes of families and kin support
- Social networks and participation
- Attitudes toward and contributions of older people
- Subjective well-being
- Spirituality

Others variables:

- Interviews with community key informant interviews, health facilities/centers/providers and traditional healers
- Impact of HIV/AIDS
- Normative factors for intergenerational relations and transfers

Data links:

Attempts will be made to link administrative records, pension lists, national or sub-national surveillance systems or health registries, hospital or health records, tax records or census data.